



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update

Program: *Phytophthora ramorum*

Date: April 13, 2004

On Friday April 9, PPQ implemented new restrictions on the interstate movement of hosts and associated articles from all commercial nurseries in California that are outside the 12 quarantined California counties. This action is necessary on an emergency basis to prevent the potential spread of *P. ramorum* to non-infested areas of the United States outside California.. Pursuant to Sections 412 and 414 of the Plant Protection Act, (7 U.S.C. 7712, 7714) the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) considers it necessary, in order to prevent the dissemination of *Phytophthora ramorum*, to establish restrictions on the interstate movement of nursery stock that has been identified as a host of *P. ramorum*, as well as certain associated articles from commercial nurseries in the 46 non-quarantined counties in California.

The fungus-like pathogen that causes sudden oak death, *Phytophthora ramorum*, has been detected in several nurseries that received plants from the large California wholesale facility where it was recently found. Laboratory confirmed positive samples from 10 locations in California, 5 in Florida, 2 in Washington State, 6 in Oregon, 5 in Georgia, 12 in Louisiana and 1 in Virginia were identified. Two additional samples from nurseries in Washington have also tested positive but there is no apparent direct link to the California wholesaler.